17

AN

Impartial Relation

OF

JOHN KELLY's Services

IN THE

VICTUALLING-OFFICE.

WITH AN

ACCOUNT of the great ABUSES he has met with from his OPPOSERS.

Likewise his Neceſſary

VINDICATION

Occaſioned by their

REPORT

TO THE

LORDS of the ADMIRALTY.

LONDON;

Printed for the Author, who is an Advocate for the Sailors,
MDCXCIX.

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THE

PREFACE.

HONOURED GENTLEMEN,

HAving done conſiderable Services relating to the Victualling, Mr. Agar *being dead (for whoſe Memory I ſhall always have a Veneration); and it being confidently ſpread abroad that Mr.* Papillion *was laying down, and Capt.* Ayles *to be removed, which would have made way for new Comiſſioners; being ſenſible of my Loſs in the former, who had conſtantly given me Encouragement in what I offered for the Publick; and that Mr.* Main *who was to ſucceed Him as Firſt Commiſſioner would be my violent Oppoſer. Upon this I reſolved and accordingly applyed my ſelf to the Admiralty (Recommended by His Grace the Duke of* Ormond*) for a Settlement and Compenſation, for Performances laid before Them; which the following Prints preſent the Reader with. Their Lordſhips ſent my Allegations down to the Commiſſioners for Victualling, with a Command of a Report concerning me, which They made, and I have publiſh'd from a Copy granted me after it was ſent up. This was ſoon replyed to by me, and only given in to Them. I now likewiſe print it Paragraph to Paragraph to Their Report, that in one ſingle view the Reader may ſee and judg of both. From that time Mr.* Papillion *has made me hope the Gentlemen might be brought over to do me Right, yea even after the Lords of the Admiralty had writ to Them in Words of a harſh Sound about me, occaſioned by the Severity of their Report. Several Months being ſpent in fruitleſs Attendance, Capt.* Ayles *ſince dead, and Mr.* Burlington *were prevail'd with, by Mr.* Papillion, *upon Propoſals here to be ſeen of eminent Advantage to the Government, to Contract with me. Mr.* Burlington *recedes and leaves me all in Ruines, Mr.* Main *is what he ever was, and nothing leſs than a Miracle can change him. The Letters I likewiſe ſet forth, to ſhew I have uſed my utmoſt Endeavours to ſoften them to a Compliance with me: All being ſucceſsleſs, I became deſperate, as may appear by my Farewel-Letter, of ſuch a ſtrain nothing could juſtify it but ſuch a Treatment; eſpecially when at that very Inſtant the King was abus'd in His Subjects, the Commiſſioners in their Honour, and I with a Numerous Family expos'd to a Jail and Starving. Who could have done more to have prevented this Publication? Or who would ſilently periſh in complaiſance to ſuch unrelenting Tempers?*

An

An Account of the Tranſactions between John Kelly *and the Commiſſioners for Victualling, ſince their coming in and his firſt being employ'd by them.*

BEing heartily affected to the preſent Government, I very early devoted my thoughts to the Service of it. I well knew that there might be Baked in the Kings Ovens larger quantities of durable Bisket than cuſtom, that common plea for all that's Ill, would ever admit of; and that the Town Bakers in Contract required an Overſeer as much as formerly. I was recommended to the Commiſſioners for the Victualling by Perſons of ſo extraordinary a Character, that they ſoon received me to regulate their own Bakehouſe, and to ſee the Bakers abroad perform'd their part. In this Truſt I was for ſix Months; I challenge my Enemies to prove upon me the leaſt failure in my duty. All that ſpace I Baked in my own Houſe, and ſold to the Commiſſioners, being under the daily view of ſuch who (if they had found any thing to my diſparagement) would loudly have proclaim'd it. At the foreſaid Expiration, Mr. *Maine* at the Board demanded my Warrant, telling me, They had no farther Occaſion for me; and when they had, they would ſend for me: Which ſome intended they never ſhould, as by the ſequel will eaſily be diſcern'd. This was the deep Contrivance of Capt. *Bolt*, whoſe private Intereſt juſtling with the Publick and Mine, is the Source of all my Misfortunes. Not long after *Dodſon* was taken into my Place on Labourers pay, one of no judgment, and whoſe mean allowance might be foreſeen a temptation to that after unfaithfulneſs I detected: He does his utmoſt to blaſt my Reputation, thereby to prevent my re entry whence I was diſpoſſeſs'd. The Commiſſioners having occaſion for great quantities of Bisket bought 3000 Bags of me. I had juſt taken a new built Houſe, which I had a proſpect would prejudice my Bread if it continued with me; I acquainted the Gentlemen with it, they promis'd to take it as faſt as baked: This not being done, I renewed my application; they told me the Ships were not ready; with theſe Delays I had 1500 Bags of Bisket ſo damnified (though very good in it ſelf) that it was left on my hands, which I was forced to cull, and ſold to thoſe of the Trade who ſold part of it to the Commiſſioners, as I proved before them. Dampneſs of Ships ſpoil'd ſome Mens Bread while in the River, yet they ſuſtain'd no loſs by it.

Note, The ſending for Bisket was Capt. *Bolt*'s buſineſs. At the ſame time two others baked Horſe-Beans in their Bread, and was accepted, by the favour of Mr. *Mayne* who ſold a Horſe, Capt. *Bolt* who had the Preſent of a Silver-heated Cain, and *Dodſon* who had 10 *l.* lent him on a Note, which was to be deliver'd up when the Bisket went to Sea. This I made out againſt *Dodſon*, for which he was diſcharg'd.

Thenceforward ſuch Grain was made uſe of in Bisket for the Navy, as ne're had been known. Mr. *G.* bought 130 *Quarter* of dammag'd Peaſe out of the Victualling-Office, baked it into Bisket, and ſold it to the Commiſſioners. I ask'd him how he thought to get clear of it? He told me I might go with him and ſee: he buys a Horſe of Mr. *Mayne*, who challenges him for 10 *s.* remaining for the former in my hearing.

I baked 500 Bags of Bisket with some Pease in it, to see how they would pass from me: They were refus'd, and after six Months keeping, sold by another to the Office, for more than I would have parted with them for at first.

The Town-Bakers were in Confederacy to fix an extravagant Price on the Bisket, they knew the Commissioners were in urgency for; after all these Discouragements I resolv'd to appear, and as I happily baffled their Designs, I made then Three Propositions to the Commissioners. *1st.* To prevent mixtures. *2dly.* To carry on Baking in their own Office, as afore done by me. *3ly.* By baking in my own House the Kings Stuff. The latter they soon complied with me in, and contracted with me for, the Two former was to be coloured over as I shall presently relate. The Proposal they closed with me in, was to be defeated as far as possible. Mr. *Mayne* set himself against my payment according to Contract, which Mr. *Papillon* was for, yet it was carried against me. Nor did I bake what I could have baked, though I might have Goods sent into me on the Office credit: This was to my great Injury, and the Publick too, and Gain to none I know of, but the Purveyor. The Commissioners order'd the clearing of my House of the Bisket I had in it, before I baked for them; which I did, and after sold it to them. *Dodson* was again brought in, he survey'd it, and reports it, as handling cold; when I came to take out my Warrants, Mr. *Mayne* crys out we'll amerce him, Mr. *Papillon* askt how much? Mr. *Mayne* said 3 *l. per C.* which came to 45 *l. Dodson* seem'd concern'd at it, and told me, he thought 1 *s. per C.* would have been as much as they would have laid on it. This was the first Amercement ever was made, as I knew of; and by Mr. *Mayne*'s good will it should be the only one, as will appear by an Article in the Report about Amercement, which was what he openly express'd at the Board against me to have brought them off; which taking Air the Bakers Petition'd for Remission, but Mr. *Papillon* resolv'd it should not go unpunish'd, and carried it.

The Commissioners Ship'd great quantities of Bisket for the *Streights* There was sent to Sea as I proved upon *Dodson* by Three Witnesses such Bisket it was a shame it should pass; upon this he was again thrown out, Mr. *Papillon* declaring he must never expect to be imployed more in the Office.

For all this the Commissioners accepted not of my two former Propositions till some time after, as the succeeding Papers will manifest.

I'll put an end to this account, acquainting only after all the Services my Reply to the Report will make out, with the brightest Evidence, at the moment it was rumour'd Mr. *Papillon* had resign'd, there having been a Drip in my House that had damaged some Cakes; the whole Loft of Bisket, was given out for such to Capt. *Ayles*, which he so resented, he resolv'd I should turn out before himself, so forbid me any more Meal. This Inspiration from the Father of Lies was to render me odious to the New Commissioners, Mr. *Maine* to be Chairman. While my Enemies were flusht with this Imaginary Victory they flatter'd themselves they had obtain'd, and looking on themselves as rid on me forever. The Almighty Patron of the Oppress'd infuses new Courage into me; and bold as Innocence I attended the Duke of *Ormond* with my Case, who was nobly pleas'd to send me in his Great Name to the Admiralty; to whom I presented what follows.

I must only detain the Reader while I do justice to their Lordships, for their most obliging Reception of me. I should be guilty of the blackest Ingratitude, did I not make an honourable mention of what was so deserving it. I return likewise the Gentlemen of the Navy my acknowledgment for their dispatch in my Affair. How pleas'd should I be to celebrate the Praises of those, whose goodness has been flowing to me, while I'm all in torture now, I am forc'd to appear a rude ill-natur'd Satyrist, in making the justest Reflexions on those who have been otherwise.

The

The Caſe of John Kelly *of St.* Pauls Shadwell, *His Majeſty's Bisket-Baker, and Superviſor of the Victualling-Office on* Tower-Hill.

I. THat the ſaid *John Kelly* for many Years hath followed his Calling of a Bisket-Baker, but in *November* 95, the Commiſſioners for victualling the Navy contracted with him wholly to ſerve the King, and to quit all Merchants and other Services, and to bake all he could in his own Houſe on *Wapping-Wall*, and make it of the King's Stuff, which he did perform with all Faithfulneſs according to his Contract.

II. That being zealous to ſerve His Majeſty and his Seamen, and he did in ſeveral Letters inform the ſaid Commiſſioners, that other Bakers who were in Contract to deliver Bread made all of ſound and ſweet Wheat at a certain Price, did defraud the King, and abuſe the Seamen by mixing Meal made of Rye, Barly and Peaſe, which would not keep any conſiderable time Water-born, nor was wholſome for the Seamen.

III. That ſuch Practices was the occaſion that ſo much Bread was ſo frequently return'd, and particularly betwixt *November* 96, and *May* 97, vaſt Quantities were return'd at one time, for which the King paid 20 *s. per C.* and was ſold for 4 *s. per C.* and there went away as good Bread with it for want of being cull'd, as the King gave 20 *s. per C.* for at that time; and I did propoſe a Method to the Commiſſioners to prevent ſuch Evils (as had long rain'd) for the future; provided they would empower me ſo to do, and that I was inform'd by *R. S.* that ſome part was ſold to the Tranſport-Office for 12 *s. per C.* and ſome to *Newfound-Land* for 45 *s. per C.* by *R. B.*

IV. That the 10*th* of *May* 97, he receiv'd a Warrant under the Seal of the Office requiring and impowering him to ſuperviſe all the Bakers in Contract with the Office, and to inſpect what Stuff they made their Biskket of, and if not according to Contract to report the ſame in order to their Abatement and Puniſhment.

V. That in the beginning of *July* 97, the Commiſſioners being in a great Strait for want of Bread, the Bakers underſtanding it, they would have impoſed upon them as to Price and Payment. I acquainted Mr. *Mitchell* how they might raiſe more Bread in the Office, and my Houſe, by ſetting the Ovens to work Night-work, which he acquainted the Commiſſioners with; upon which I was ſent for to the Board, and was order'd to do as I propoſed (being introduced by Mr. *Green* into the Bake-houſe) which I ſo well perform'd, that they baked there, and at my Houſe, a ſufficient Quantity of Bread from the King's Stuff.

VI. That *Kelly* Purſuant to the Warrant to him directed, did inſpect the Bakers in Contract, and through many Difficulties did diſcover ſuch notorious Abuſes in their mixing undue Grains with Wheat, that the Commiſſioners amerced 10 of them in proportion to their Offences.

VII. That *Kelly* acquainted the Commiſſioners, that he had conſider'd of ſuch Methods that would ſave the King Thouſands, and to have always good and wholſom Bread; and in order thereto did propoſe that His Majeſty ſhould purchaſe Mills and grind all their own Wheat that they made into Bisket; by which all Frauds and Abuſes to His Majeſty's Subjects, and Loſſes by bad Bread, which had for many Years been practiced would utterly ceaſe; and accordingly *Kelly* did further propoſe the purchaſing Mr. *Mayhew*'s Mills at *Rotherhith*, which upon ſurvey of *Kelly*, he found it accommodated with four pair of Stones, and all other Conveniences ready fixed with large Grainerys, and a Kiln for drying of Wheat, in order to dreſs their Flower, which will make it keep three times longer at Sea than without drying.

VIII. That

VIII. That the King with thoſe Mills might grind 180 Quarters of Wheat, a Week, which is as much as would ſupply the Victualling-Office and the ſaid *Kelly*'s Houſe, and be a ſufficient Supply, and likewiſe prevent all the Miſchiefs that have hitherto attended the buying of Bisket, and that none is uſed in the Bisket they buy for the Navy.

Here follows a Copy of the Letter ſent to the Commiſſioners, upon which they granted me their Warrant.

Honoured Gentlemen, *May the 3d 97.*

ONce more I muſt give you to underſtand, that I ſee daily Abuſes put upon you by one and another, in a meer Combination to diſtreſs you as much as they can, without any reſtraint. I am the Butt into which the Arrows of their Malice are Shot. I have laboured to open your Eyes, but you ſeem as tho you had no Eyes; I aſſure you, you have not the ſame Goods you buy, ſo that the Government pays for that it has not, and the Subjects abuſed by it, who will reflect on you. Nothing is more common than to ſell you by Sample that which you have not in Parcel. I am ſure there is 10 *s. per* Quarter difference in ſome ſort of Goods that come to me; and you buy Bread to be made of good Wheat, whereas 'tis made of Barly, Rye and Peaſe, and coarſe Midlings, which makes Bread four Shillings in the Hundred worſe than you buy it for. This I can make appear, and will when I am impower'd from you, but not before. I can ſave the Government much more than 500 *l. per Ann.* as I have ſaid I could. Pray Gentlemen take me right, and don't do by me as you have formerly. I have done my duty as a faithful Servant, and I'm ſorry my Hands have been bound behind the back of my Indeavours. I'll aſſure you, if you will not credit this, it ſhall be the laſt I ſhall trouble you with. But ſhall remain, Gentlemen,

Your Humble Servant,

JOHN KELLY.

By the Commiſſioners for Victualling His Majeſty's Navy.

WHEREAS Information hath been given to us, that ſeveral of the Bakers, that contracted to deliver Bread for His Majeſty's Service, all made of good ſound ſweet Wheat, have notwithſtanding contrary to their ſaid Agreements, put in Meal of Rye, Barly and Peaſe, which may be very prejudicial to His Majeſty's Service, and the health of the Men. Theſe are therefore to require, and impower you to viſit the ſeveral Bakers that bake Bread for this Office, and to examin what Stuff they bake their Bisket of, and to give Information to us when you find any Abuſe, that upon examination thereof, ſuch Abatement may be made, or ſuch other Courſes taken, for the Puniſhment of the ſaid Abuſes, as ſhall be directed according to Juſtice and Equity. Dated at the *Victualling-Office, London* the 10*th* of *May*, 1697.

To Mr. *John Kelly*,
Theſe.

Tho. Papillon.
Simon Mayne.
J. Barrington.

This

This Letter was ſent to the Commiſſioners after the Reception of their Warrant.

Honoured Gentlemen, *June the 14th 1697.*

IN purſuance of your Warrant to me directed, wherein you impower'd me to viſit the ſeveral Bakers in contract with you, which accordingly I have, and do find your Honours very much abuſed by the Generality of them, as will appear by the Stuff and Bread they bake, which I can produce, and will when you order me. I do not know how to proceed any further, till you have ſeen what has been made thus far. I doubt not but your Honours will ſee a neceſſity for an Alteration, or elſe you cannot be ſafe in what you buy to ſend abroad, if it be Water-born any conſiderable time it will not hold, and that's the reaſon you have ſo much return'd Bread, becauſe the nature of the Stuff will not hold, it being made of Rye, Barley, Peaſe, coarſe Midlings and ſome Wheat, more or leſs, in the moſt of the Bread I have ſeen you have. I remain

Your Honours Humble Servant

JOHN KELLY.

Their Anſwer was,

THat they had ſo much occaſion for Bread at that time, that they order'd me to refuſe none but what was mouldy; and that they would take another Opportunity to treat with them that offended.

Honoured Gentlemen, *May the 18th 1698.*

I Have obeyed your Commands, in comparing the Produce of your Meal in the Office with that in my Houſe, and they both yield but poorly; how far they agree, wherein they differ, and why they do ſo, Mr. *Green* (who has the Account) will acquaint you. I am ſorry to ſee you ſo far abuſed as you have been and are; do hope you'll ſtrengthen my Hands, who can by Power from you not only prevent theſe for the future, but may do that which was never perform'd, nor I believe can be exceeded hereafter, in that which I profeſs to undertake. As I have left all buſineſs to ſerve the Government (under you) ſo I would fain do it, not by keeping you in the dark, but by bringing hidden things to light, carrying on the working, grinding and baking your Wheats, that you ſhall clearly diſcern wherein they differ, whether in kind or grinding; that ye may know a true eſtimate of the Produce of any parcel of Meal, or Meal and Midlings, whenever you require it; whereby you may know the prime coſt of the Bread to the King. If your Honours would amerce the preſent Wheats, which ye are ſenſible vary ſo much from what you bought them for, with ſubmiſſion it ſeems equally juſt to amerce Wheat as Bisket, and perhaps may be the beſt way to deter from ſuch practiſes hereafter. Your accepting or refuſing this Motion, as well as Reward for what's paſt, I willingly leave to your Wiſdoms; and do remain,

Your Honours moſt Humble Servant,

JOHN KELLY.

This Letter was ſent in obedience to the Commiſſioners Commands, after I had lent the 400 Bags of Bread, for which I took Receipts, as follows.

I Promiſe to deliver unto Mr. *John Kelly*, or his Order, two hundred Bags of Bisket, for the uſe of His Majeſty's Navy, containing one hundred and twelve Pound each Bag. Witneſs my Hand, this Fifteenth Day of *December*, 1697

Richard Salter.

I Promiſe to deliver unto Mr. *John Kelly*, or his Order, two hundred Bags of Bread, for the uſe of His Majeſty's Navy, containing one hundred and twelve Pounds each Bag. Witneſs my Hand, this Fifteenth day of *December*, 1697.

Edward Lodge.

Theſe two Letters were ſent to the Commiſſioners, in relation to the taking Mills, and the Advantages that would accrue thereby.

Honoured Gentlemen, *May the* 20*th* 1698.

I Have made ſeveral Eſſays in my way to ſerve the Government, and for the moſt part I have been unhappily underſtood and bauk'd; however, ſeeing there is one way more very providentially falls out, and perhaps 'tis the greateſt from me of any. I know a Perſon that has Mills, with large Grainaries, four pair of Stones, with all moveable Conveniencies, which he'll let the King have for two hundred and fifty Pounds, the ſtanding Rent is 135 *l. per Ann.* and there is as much to be let as will yield 50 *l. per Ann.* ſo that the ſtanding Rent will be 85 *l. per Ann.* Theſe Mills can grind 180 Quarter *per* Week, if fully employed, which is as much as the Office and my Houſe can bake in that time. The Toles thereof is 115 Buſhel, which at 5 *s. per* Buſhel, is 28 *l.* 15 *s. per* Week, and at 8 *s. per* Buſhel, as it is now currant is 46 *l. per* Week. Theſe Mills at the utmoſt cannot ſtand the King in more than 500 *l. per Ann.* 'tis certain this will be of great advantage to the King, if you do but compute it according to what Wheat has been, and muſt be ſpent in the Office and my Houſe, beſides the innumerable Evils and chargeable Practices; this very thing will prevent too many here to be enumerated. The Senſe you have of the whole I wait for, and am

Your Honours humble Servant.

Honoured Gentlemen, *May the* 24*th* 1698.

THE other Day I hinted the great Profit in taking Mills for the King's Uſe, if it needs urging, I can do it from the many Abuſes it will prevent, and the bare naming them, I am perſwaded will be enough to ſatisfy you.

I. By thoſe that ſold you Wheat, who have not deliver'd the the ſame according to Sample into the Mills, nor have ſent in the full Quantity which they have ſold at that time, and yet the Millers have given a Receipt for the full Proportion of what has been order'd them to receive, and has taken a Note from under the Factors Hand to make good the full Complement.

II. Another great Evil was your ſending your Wheat to ſo many Mills at ſuch diſtances, and has been proved upon ſome of the Millers to have gone there good, but have come home bad, beſides the power of Sacks you have loſt every Year; theſe have been reigning Evils along time: when they began I doe not know, but hope you will put an end to them now, by ſetting up a better way for the Publick Good, and your Honours. What I have ſaid is true, and not to be ſlighted.

If it be demanded, that seeing these things are so momentous, why did I not let you know them sooner; to that I will return these two Answers. 1*st*. That I have met with so much Opposition in lesser Matters, which yet were as true, that I have been afraid to meddle with so great a one. 2*dly*. For me to discover those Evils that were in such high Practice, and which could not be removed by a bare discovery. I thought therein I should have done more hurt than good; but now when such a singular opportunity is put into my Hands to cut off all these, and without which you can never do it. I was encouraged to present it to you, being

Your humble Servant,

JOHN KELLY.

The Commissioners Report to the Lords of the Admiralty, in Relation to his Petition and Case, together with his Reply to them, and what is since added.

Honoured Gentlemen,

WE received your Honours Letter of the first of *August* last, accompanying the Petition and Case of *John Kelly*, calling himself His Majesty's Bisket-Baker, and Supervisor in the Victualling-Office, transmitted to you from the Right Honourable the Lords of the Admiralty, which you send us, and desire us to inform you what we know of his Allegations, and whether we think it fit for His Majesty's Service to continue him as he desires, with such other Matters as we should think proper for their Lordship's knowledg.

We have for some time deferr'd the answering your Honours said Letter, in regard of the Absence of some of our Board, desiring that the said Matter might be examined in a full Board, which having now been done, we crave leave to acquaint your Honours with the state of that Matter.

Report. We cannot allow of the Title he gives himself of his Majesty's Master Bisket-Baker, and Supervisor in the Victualling-Office, nor that ever we contracted with him wholly to serve the King, and quit all other Services.

Honoured Gentlemen,

I Beg leave to reply to your Honours Report, whereby I intend to set things in a clearer Light before you. The Title of Master-Baker I'll drop, but desire to be your humble Remembrancer, that Mr. *Green* by your verbal Order, introduced me into the Office of inspecting your own Bakers, who ever since have constantly observed my Directions, and in particular my commanding them Night-work, whereby more Bisket than ordinary being raised, it occasioned the Town-Bakers who were then caballing to advance their Price, to lower it (as Capt. *Bolt* then own'd to me.) I sometime after put things into such a method, you might always be ascertained of the actual Produce of Bisket from Meal, whereby you might discover the Quality of the Stuff (which before had a Cloud cast over it.) I discovered likewise the excessive charge you were at in repair of your Ovens, and would have demonstrated, by what might have been done for the future, the shameful Management for the past.

I add, I would have ordered the dressing your Bran to a considerabler Advantage than at present: I offered it, but it was neglected, as was likewise the dressing your own Flower. I do not see how a Master-Baker becomes so unallowed a Title, when a Master-Cooper is so granted a one; in baking there seems to be more of Mistery, and so one to guide and govern it seems to

be

be as neceſſary: and Names are only for Diſtinction. I once oppoſed Capt. *Bolt*'s Judgment, recommending ſuch Stuff to be baked into Bisker, to be ſent with Capt. *Warren* to the *Indies*, as I am certain would have fail'd, and preferr'd other which laſted the Voyage out and Home, as I received account from Mr. *Edward Wilks* Clerk to Capt. *Warren*.

As to your ſignifying your not contracting with me wholly to ſerve the King, I with due ſubmiſſion rejoin, the very nature of the thing implies it; otherwiſe I might have been under continual Suſpicion (blow up by thoſe whoſe Intereſt it interfer'd with) of changing the King's Goods for worſe of my own, having no Eye of yours over me, I ſuppoſe becauſe you knew me only employ'd for the King, therefore there was none. I add, my former Papers puts this out of doubt, relating ſuch Circumſtances about it I ſhall neve forget.

Report. It's true that the 10*th* of *May* 97, having Information of the Abuſes of ſome Bakers then in contract, we did give him a Warrant to viſit and examin with what Stuff the ſeveral Bakers we were in contract with did bake their Bread, and wherein he found abuſe to give us an account thereof, and at the ſame time we did imploy him to bake Bread for His Majeſty's Service, and furniſhed him with Stuff for the ſame rate of 2 *s. per C.* weight, for his Care of inſpecting the other Bakers, he demanded no Allowance in regard he was imployed by us to bake Bread himſelf.

The ſaid *Kelly* in anſwer to the ſaid Warrant, did give Information againſt ſeveral Bakers; and upon hearing and examining the Matter, there hath been between 2 and 300 *l.* ſtop'd and allow'd for the Abuſes they had been guilty of. The ſaid *Kelly*'s Informations being not given unto our Board, until the Bread was deliver'd and gone.

We knew of no expence of Time and Money that the ſaid *Kelly* hath been at, otherwiſe then before expreſt, nor ever underſtood of any contrivance he made for the Retrenchment of the Charge in the Office, or that he expected any Compenſation or Salary for his Service, otherways than the due Payment of him for the Bread he baked.

Reply. I was above a Year in baking for you, before I prov'd upon *Dodſon* his Connivance at the Bakers, for which he was a ſecond time diſcharg'd; ſoon after you gave me a Warrant to the purpoſe you expreſs it. Mr. *Agur* gave it as his Senſe at the Board, and none of you contradicted it, that half of the Amercement ſhould be my Encouragement. I am ready to give Oath I made Complaint againſt them with all imaginable Candor, to avoid the Clamour I expected upon it. The receiving of the Bisket mulcted by them was by the Appointment of the Board, notwithſtanding Mr. *Maine*'s aſſerting differently. Mr. *Agur* had the ſeveral Samples at delivery handed to him, by Mr. *Warren* who is ready to atteſt it. I could never have imagined your Honours could have thought all the fore-mentioned Services to be done, only for the good done by them, or that it could be expenſleſs, or that I would create Legions of Enemies only for the pleaſure of engaging them.

I add, I had a Salary for executing my former Warrant, though I baked my own Stuff, and might have gain'd ſufficiently, as all did except my ſelf, for the Reaſons before-given.

Report. That whereas he ſuggeſts in the third Article in his Caſe, That Quantities of return'd Bread from the Ships of War, were ſold at 4 *s. per Cent.* and afterwards by the Perſon that bought it, ſold to the Commiſſioners of the Tranſport for 12 *s. per C. &c.* all the Contents of the ſaid Article (except only that the ſaid defective Bread was ſold at 4 *s. per C.*) is altogether falſe and ſcandalous, and upon the Examination in his own Preſence, all the ſaid Particulars hath been own'd by him to be utterly falſe, and all his Pretences of excuſe, aſſerting ſuch untruth, was that ſome body or other told him ſo.

Reply.

Reply. As to the return'd Bisket ſold to Capt. *Clerk*, he frankly own'd the culling it; but ſaid it came to a bad Market. *William Railton* one of the Furners, juſtified ſome of it as good as what you bought, which was no great Credit to the Purveyor.

I add, what I ſaid about ſelling to the Tranſport-Office, which is ſo aggravated, I had it from *R. S.* I invented it not, nor ever deſign'd to ſcandalize you by it, but to expoſe the buying of no better Bread than ſold for damaged.

They Report. We own it to be true, that the ſaid *Kelly* did Inform them of the Mills at *Rotherith* were to be ſold; and that it would be for the King's Service to buy the ſame, to prevent the Abuſes that had been formerly committed by the Millers; which we upon conſideration, hoping it might prove to His Majeſty's Advantage, did apply to the Right Honourable the Lords of the Admirality, for their Lordſhips Direction in the Caſe; and upon their Lordſhips Approval, did buy the Leaſe of the ſaid Mills: We think Mr. *Kelly* therein did a good Service, but we never heard that he expected any Bounty for the ſame.

Reply. For the Mills which Providence propoſed I laid hold on, and your Honours Embraced, as the great Remedy for ſo many Evils the Office laboured under; to your Fame be it ſpoke, with a Generoſity worthy of you: You deſpiſed all the Artifices made uſe of to hinder your taking of them. And my poſſeſſing my ſelf of *Mahew*'s Papers ſomewhat contributed to. I pay you, Gentlemen, my ſincereſt Acknowledment for owning me as an Inſtrument about them.

Report. As to the Prayer of his Petition, That he might be continued Maſter-Baker in the *Victualling-Office*, and Impowered Superviſor of all dry Proviſions, *&c.* We crave leave to certifie your Honours, That we cannot think him a fit Perſon for ſuch a Truſt, not only becauſe before he was Imploy'd to Bake the King's Meal, when he was in Contract for delivering of Bread, we found him as Culpable as any of the other Bakers; but that alſo ſince he was Imploy'd to Bake for the King, he did diſpoſe of 400 Bags of Bread for his own uſe, for the Payment of his Private Debts, without the Knowledge or Allowance of the Board, and in a time when there was great Scarcity of Bread for their Service; and though the ſame hath ſince been ſupplied by other Bread, which was not ſo good as that of the King's; yet we humbly conceive, a Perſon that hath been Guilty of ſuch a Breach of Truſt, and in a time when the King's Affairs might have ſuffer'd exceedingly for want of the Bread, is not fit for ſuch an Employ and Truſt as is in his Petiton deſired. We are,

Gentlemen, your Honours moſt Humble, &c.

Reply. I come now to the concluding Paragraph about my Contrivances, *&c.* I pray with more fervency than ever, that ſince I have acted ſo (as the Paper demonſtrates) for the Common Good, you would not ſuffer me, as you are Gentlemen, and more as you are Chriſtians, to fall into Ruin, to the Triumph of thoſe that hate me, and the diſheartning all who ſhall ſerve the Publick againſt the Selfiſhneſs of them that oppoſe it.

As to your repreſenting me as unqalify'd, from undue Baking whilſt in Contract, it ſhould ſeem more an Objection againſt uſing me formerly, than at preſent; and what gave ſatisfaction then, will, I truſt, continue it now. Though I muſt needs ſay, that Eye was ſharp as an Eagles, that could diſern Peaſe in Bisket while it was mine, and therefore rejected it; and as ſoon as it came to be Mr. C---- became blind as a Mole (or the Peaſe vaniſhed) and accepted it.

The 400 Bags of Bisket disposed of by me, was such a fault, nothing less than Necessity can Apologize for: But your Honours have been misinformed about paying my Debts with the Sale of them. I have their Note to shew it otherwise: As it is not out of your Power, or unreasonable to forgive it, seeing it has been made good; so let it not be against your Inclinations, but let my Services, with the State of a poor Family in the depth of Misery, move your Compassion; and may I upon a Second Commission of that kind, fall under the severest Justice, as now I hope to become an Object of your Mercy. And so remain, Your Humble Servant,

JOHN KELLY.

I add, I assume the Boldness to assert, I have abundantly Refuted your charging me, when in Contract, with delivering as bad Bread as others; I wish both that and what I have returned to it, had never seen the Sun. The Services about the Mills alone in the full extent of their usefulness, are of that consequence, the consideration of them might have prevail'd with you to have buried the 400 Lent Bags in Everlasting Oblivion: I must be free with you, Gentlemen, you had no other way of intercepting the Lords of the Admiralty's Bounty to me, and preventing their Settling me (upon Petitioning them) according as I requested them, but with blackening me with that unhappy Fact.

I am sorry for you, that your Prejudices should not rest here, and tho' I have declined the Matter of my Petition, and only Crave to live by Serving the Government, and that only because I can live no otherwise, having disoblig'd almost all others, by my Serving the Government in opposition to them. I must be deny'd this, though I give in Security; and nothing will satisfie, but to abandon me to all that is Miserable, as if I had been one of the Vilest of Criminals. The Touch about Bisket supply'd, being not so good, I can only say to it, Captain *Ayles* might have refused it, I could have compelled them to send in better, as I might sooner, had I known your Scarcity, the Notes running to answer it on Demand.

I cannot take my leave of the last Article, (that gives such a wound to my Reputation, I and all mine are threatened to bleed to Death by it) without making two Observations upon it.

First, As to what you term the Prayer of my Petition, my Answer to the first Article, and the Amercement; I think, clears it up to a Demonstration, that my Conduct has been unexceptionable in both Parts; and that is more than I shall grant that of my Adversaries to have been.

Secondly, Neither can that far fetch'd Argument against me, nor your nearer ones (all so weakened (as I humbly conceive) by my Reply to them) I verily think, conclude against me even in that, unless my Faults, different from all Mankind, admit of no Extenuations; and what would be a Vertue in others, is demerit in me. Much less for ever to shut me out of Employ under the King, when I have given in Security.

The Account of the first Years Work, wherein I was concerned in buying part of the Goods.

1695.

Nov. 11. TO Meal, for 100 *Qr.* bought of Mr. *Holloway* 56 *s. per Qr.*

Decem. 5. To *ditto* for 50 *quart.* of the said *Holloway*, at 50 *s.*

5. To Midling, for 9 *quart.* bought of *Geo. Hubert*, at 48 *s.*

Decemb. 9. Produce, by Bisket Bread 528 Bags

Jan. 22. Delivered, by *Providence-Hoy, James Pearse* Master, 320 Bags.

Ditto 25. Deliv. by a Hoy called the *William, W. Phillpot* Master, 208 Bags.

To

1695 & 96.

Decem. 16. To Meal for 150 *quart.* bought of Mr. *Holloway*, at 54 *s.*
To Midling for 13 *quart.* of *Geor. Hubart.* at 48 *s.*
To Midling, for 8 *quart.* 4 *buſh.* of *Geo. Staples*, at 35 *s.*
Januar. 27. Produce, by Bisket Bread 582 Bags.
Januar. 25. Delivered, By *William* Hoy, *Phillpot* Maſter, 104 Bags.
28. Deliv. by the *William* and *Thomas*, *John Long* Maſter, 358 Bags.
Deliv. by the *Friendſhip*, 120 Bags.

Januar. 9. To Meal, for 150 *quart.* bought of Mr. *Holloway*, at 54 *s.*
28. Produce, by Bisket-bread 493 Bags.
30. Deliv. by the *William* and *Thomas*, *John Long* Maſter, 453 Bags.
Deliv. by *The. Hermond*, 40 Bags.

Januar. 28. To Meal, for 150 *quart.* bought of Mr. *Holloway*, at 54 *s.*
Febr. 10. Produce, by Bisket Bread 489 Bags.
Febr. 3. Deliv. by Wherry for the *William* and *Thomas*, 20 Bags.
11. Deliv. by the *Succeſs*, *J. Sauly* Maſter, 196 Bags.
Deliv. by Wherries in 100 Punchins, 200 Bags.
March 2. Deliv. by the *James* Hoy, *John Litchfield* Maſter, 73 Bags.

I would have given you the whole of the Deliveries, but it would have been too large for this Book, as well as too chargable for me. This I think is ſufficient to ſhew my Method, and the conſtant Attendance of me and my Servants.

Febru. 15. To Meal for 250 *quart.* bought of Mr. *Holloway*, at 54 *s.*
To Midling, for 10 *quart.* 5 *buſh.* of Mr. *Broxwel*, at 47 *s.*
To Midling, for 21 *quart.* 4 *buſh.* of Mr. *Holloway*, at 36 *s.*
To Midling for 12 *quart.* 4 *buſh.* of Mr. *Meagor*, at 48 *s.*
To Medling, for 2 *quart.* 4 *buſh.* of Mr. *Tho. Clark*, at 48 *s.*
To Midling, for 16 *quart.* 4 *buſh.* of Mr. *Hubbart*, at 48 *s.*
Produce, by Bisket Bread, 1042 Bags.

March 24. To Meal for 220 *quart.* bought of Mr. *Holloway* at 48 *s.*
To Midling, for 19 *quart.* 4 *buſh.* of *Geor. Hubbart*, at 48 *s.*
To Midling, for 40 *quart.* of Mr. *Holloway* at 36 *s.*
To Midling for 12. *quart.* 4 *buſh.* of *Meagor*, at 48 *s.*
To Midling, for 3 *quart.* 1 *buſh.* of *Tho. Clark*, at 48 *s.*
To Midling, for 12 *quart.* 4 *buſh. Rich. Rountree* at 44 *s.*
Produce, by Biket, 978 Bags.

May 4. For Meal, 210 *quart.* of Mr. *Holloway* at ſundry Prices.
To Meal, for 30 *quart.* of Mr. *Moore*, at 42 *s.*
To Midling, for 36 *quart.* 5 *buſh.* R. *Rountree*, at 44 *s.*
To Midling, for 15 *quart.* 5 *buſh. ditto Rountree*, at 40 *s.*
To Midling, for 5 *quart.* 3 *buſh. Edw. Davis* at 40 *s.*
To Midling, for 5 *quart.* 7 *buſh. ditto Davis* at 36 *s.*
To Midling, for 4 *quart.* 3 *buſh. James Kenfield* at 33 *s.* 6*d.*
To Midling, for 14 *quart.* Mr. *Geor. Hubbart*, at 32 *s.*
Produce, by Bisket Bread, 1034 Bags.

June 15 To Meal, for 100 *quart.* bought of Mr. *Holloway* at 40 *s.*
To Midling, for 6 *quart.* 2 *buſh.* of *Ja. Norwood* at 32 *s.*
To Midling, for 28 *quart.* 4 *buſh.* of Mr. *Holloway* at 29 *s.*
Produce, by Bisket Bread, 445 Bags.

1696.

July 2. To Meal, for 145 *quart*, bought of Mr. *Holloway* at 40 s.
To Midling, for 6 *quart*. 4 *buſh*. bought *ditto Holloway* at 30 *s*.
To Midling, for 22 *quart*. of *Holloway* or *Rich. Rountrees* 29 *s*.
To Midling, for 5 *quart*. 5 *buſh*. of *Edw. Davis* 28 *s*.
To Midling, for 11 *quart*. 7 *buſh*. *Mary Tillard* 32 *s*.
Produce, by Bisket Bread, 649.

July 30. To Meal, for 137 *quart*. 4 *buſh*. at 40 *s*.
To Midling, for 9 *quart*. bought of Mr. *Gallaway* at 28 *s*.
To Midling, for 11 *quart*. of Mr. *Bedwel*, at 28 *s*.
To Midling, for 12 *quart*. 4 *buſh*. of Mr. *Davis* at 30 *s*.
To Midling, for 8 *quart*. of Mr. *Holloway* at 29 *s*.

Septemb. 21. Produce, by Bisket Bread, 600 Bags.

Septemb. 21. To Meal, for 100 *quart*. at 38 *s*.
To Midling, for 4 *quart*. 2 *buſh*. of Mr. *Holloway*, at 26 *s*.
To Midling, for 16 *quart*. 6 *buſh*. of *Ja. Norvood*, at 28 *s*. 6 *d*.

October 9. To Midling, for 6 *quart*. 3 *buſh*. of *Joſ. Shepard*, at 26 *s*.

October 9. Produce, by Bisket Bread, 449 Bags.

Honoured Sirs, *October the* 13*th* 1696.

I Have delivered the Account of the two laſt Parcels which have been in hand ſince the 2d. of *July*, the neat produce of the former, was 600 Bags of Bisket at 13 *s*. *per* Bag, and the other 449 Bags at 12 *s*. *per* Bag, I could have baked twice as much in the time or more; and conſidering how cheap I work, and the great Charge I am at, it's hard with me, for want of Money for what I have done, as well as for want of what I could have done; ſo that ſet my Working time and my Playing time together, I have got nothing by Serving you this Year, for I have Three Ovens which draw 200 and a half *per* Shute, which comes but to 5 *s*. and the Wood and Wages of that is 4 *s*. 7 *d*. whence it appears my Profit is very ſmall, to pay Houſe-Rent and Taxes, and maintain my great Family, for whom I have no other way to get Bread; having, as you know, thrown off all my other Concerns (as you oblig'd me) to ſerve the Government, which has Created me many Enemies, who labour induſtriouſly to overthrow all my Endeavours, which is to me a great Trouble, and eſpecially from thoſe who ſhould have been one with me: They are the great Tools made uſe of by my Enemies (within) though, I thank God, they cannot charge me with the leaſt unfaithfulneſs to my Truſt, and all the former I could much better bear, had I but the Countenance and Encouragement from your Honours, as my Readineſs and Fidelity might obtain, were not your Honours poſſeſs'd with contrary Sentiments, all which, I hope, Time will change into favonrable ones concerning

Your Honours moſt Humble Servant,

JOHN KELLY.

Note, The Commiſſioners contradicted not my aſſerting throwing off all my other Concerns, as they obliged me, *&c*. The firſt of that kind I met with in the *Report*.

Honoured

Honoured Sirs, *February the 5th 1696.*

I Am conſtrained to give you the trouble of theſe, becauſe your Delays to pay me my Wages for my laſt Years Work, lays me under ſuch Neceſſities, that I can no longer ſtand under the ſame, unleſs you pay me. What I have done, is cheaper than any other Man could do it, or than it is done in the Office by 5 *per Cent.* from *November* 1695, to *November* 1696; and if you pleaſe to compute it, you will find it ſo, or pretty near it. One thing more I can prove, that if you would have let me Bake what I would have Baked from *June* to *November* laſt, I had ſaved the King 35 *per Cent.* of what you give now; which is 926 *l.* 9 *s.* on the 2647 Bags of Bread which I could have Baked more than I had. The Meal, *&c.* to have made it of, I could have had of ſuch as would have Credited the Office at that time, which are as followeth; Mr. *Francis Hollaway*, Mr. *George Hubart*, Mr. *Megar*, Mr. *Edward Davis*, Mr. *James Norwood*, Mrs. *Mary Tillard*, &c. For the Truth of what I ſay in this particular, pleaſe to review your own Agreement with Mr. *Hollaway*, *September* laſt, for 100 Quarters, as it ſtands in your Minute Book, and 'twill appear true; all which, when entertain'd in your Honours ſerious Conſideration, undoubtedly will prevail with you to take ſome effectual Courſe for my Payment, and further oblige

Your Honours moſt Humble Servant,

JOHN KELLY.

Honoured Gentlemen, *February the 10th 1697.*

I Conclude by your Carriage to me, and your not paying of me according to Contract, that you think I get greatly by Baking for you; If I had been fully Employ'd all the Year, I could have cleared about 100 *l. per Annum.* I have acted with that plainneſs and clearneſs in my Accounts, which proves me to be otherwiſe than was thought by ſome of you when I firſt propoſed this Undertaking, and others which was then offered; which would have been as advantageous to the Government as this, and altogether for the Saylors Good: I know the Suſpicions which ſome of you have of me, were ſuggeſted to your Honours by ſome in your Office, as well as without, whoſe Intereſt theſe Propoſals of mine interfere with, and ſome of them have been heard to ſay, That they had better given me a Thouſand Pounds, than I ſhould have done what I did, for it was, and it would be, much out of their way. Gentlemen, I hope you will not take my Addreſſing you amiſs, for is there not a Cauſe? I find you ſlight me, and all I do for you, as if I were not faithful to you, when no Man could have done more to Serve you than I have; I have obeyed your Orders punctually, have given you an Account juſtly, have been diligent in finding out all Irregular Practices that were prejudicial to the Subject, or reflect diſhonour on you: I have ſpent both my Time and Money to ſerve you, and had I had the Incouragement I deſerved from you, things might have been ſo managed, that none of your Succeſſors ſhould be able to find fault in theſe Species: I humbly remain,

Gentlemen, your Faithful Servant,

JOHN KELLY.

IT was not my first Intention to print the Transcript out of the Books, and the Three Letters that accompany it, which I am sensible in the order of Things should be in another more proper place: But this being an After-Thought, I must acquaint you they have a double Face, looking backward and forward, and are so serviceable to my main Design, I cannot without Injury to my self omit them.

First, The Transcript proves what I assert in my foregoing Reply to the the Commissioners, that I was employ'd by them in baking, long before they gave me the Warrant they specify the Date of, *viz. May* 97. I leave it to all who are impartial, whether love of Trouble and fierce Opposition only, could be a reasonable Motive to pay further Services to the Government, without respect to the Rewards of it; I am sure I cannot pretend to so elevated a Vertue, and never thought any would have fastened it upon me.

Secondly, They show from the ample Produce the goodness of the Stuff then used; which failing afterwards, the then Accomptant Mr. *Lillburne*, since deceased that examined it, finding the same Deficiency in the King's own Bake-house. It awakened to the Consideration of the Abuses at the Mills, as the true Causes of it, which made way for the purchasing of them, and like a Torrent bore down all Arguments against them, and will be a standing Demonstration the Victualling-Office can never be without them.

Lastly, They with a Glance of the Eye discover the frequent compleatings of Parcels, and the natural Consequences to me seems my Payment ought to have kept pace with them; and that they did not, I feelingly express in my Letters, where I likewise manifest I might and ought to have had constanter Work, for the Publick Advantage and my own, which evinces what the last Page will present you with about my Losses: All Men will easily be satisfied the Prepossession against me was long before the 400 Bags, and guess at the Quiver whence so many Arrows have been shot at me; though I am certain the Government has been wounded through my Sides.

A LETTER *to the* BOARD.

Gentlemen,

I With profound Respects to your Honours, and equal Sincerity, express'd my self in words you ordered Minuting, and ever since with a Patience only Heaven could inspire me with, have been Echoing to them. Were your generous Natures sensible of half my Sufferings, they long e're this had period put unto them. I'm pleas'd with nothing more, than the Proposal now before you; wherein no Man's Interest is interfer'd with; the King's secur'd, and I not nam'd. This carries such Demonstration with it, I presume to believe, were proper for their Lordships of the Admiralty's Cognizance, that they would approve it, as I humbly suppose your Great Judgments do. And yet at the same time, out of the Abyss of Misery I court your Affection, to a speedy embracing it. My Case look'd on as Desperate, and reported such as to your Office, reach'd the Ears of some who about a Week since, engaged me on *Saturday* next to meet them, in order to the transmitting it to the Parliament. I wish and heartily entreat your

Honours

Honours to prevent that Aſſignation. By ſuch Beneficence you will diſperſe the Clouds have ſo long hung ore a diſtreſſed Family, give Light and Life unto them, and your ſelves taſte ſurely the Satisfaction the Divnity it ſelf is bleſs'd in, *viz.* that of being and doing good.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

First, The Words minuted were, *That my Deſign was to ſerve the Government, in doing what might be to their Honour.*

Secondly, *By no Mans Intereſt interfered with*; I had an Eye to the Small-Coal and Bran, that they ſhould be diſpoſed of by the uſual Hands, I deſigning only their frequent payment of that Money to me for my preſent ſupply: and my Modeſty was ſuch (the Lords having writ concerning not employing me as Maſter-Baker and Superviſor) I propoſed the Contract might run in another Name.

Thirdly, My Invitotion to Parliament was Fact; ſuppoſing it ſuch, could it have been expreſſed ſofter? Upon this Letter Mr. *Barrington* and Capt. *Ayles* told one, who immediately imparted it to me, they thought they ſhould comply with me, Mr. *Papillon* being for it: without this Intimation I had gone up according to the appointment.

The PROPOSALS of JOHN KELLY.

THE third of *April* laſt, I laid before the Commiſſioners the advantage 'twould be to the King, in employing my Houſe in baking the overplus of what their Mills could grind, over and above what they could bake at their Office.

I. That 'tis more conſiſtent with the Intereſt of the Government, to employ my Houſe with your Office, becauſe your Office cannot bake all the Bread you have occaſion for, as appears by your buying Bread.

II. Your Office cannot bake all the Wheat your Mills can grind; therefore the Mills do not anſwer the Ends for which they were taken for.

III. The Mills will grind as much Wheat as your Office and my Houſe can bake in a Week, and therein they fully anſwer the End for which they were taken for.

IV. The Tolls of the overplus of what the Mills can grind over and above what the Office can bake, will come to Ten Pounds a Week, which will pay the Rents of the Mills, and the Servants Wages belonging thereto.

V. That I will make Bread of all Wheat, as cheap to the King (all things conſidered, and far better for the Subject that eats it) than that which you buy of the Bakers and Mealmen, made of Barley, Rye, and Midlings of Bran ground over again, which is improper for the Navy's uſe, and contrary to your Inſtructions.

VI. The Employing of my Houſe has been of great Advantage to the Government, it being a Check to them that ſold Bread to the Office, who would have made greater Advantage to themſelves, had it not been for me; and likewiſe that I gave them to underſtand the true Produce of the Stuff I received, made out; and what the Bread laid the King in, clear of all Charge.

Upon theſe Articles I founded theſe Propoſals.

First, To give Security to Satisfaction.

Secondly, to bake the Stuff for Eight Shillings the Quarter. And,

Thirdly,

Thirdly, To be paid Quarterly, and that the Money that ariſeth from the Bran and Small-Coal Weekly, be paid to me, from the Hands of them that receive it, and to be diſcounted out of the Eight Shillings *per* Quarter.

April the 4th the Commiſſioners ſent for me, in purſuance to my Propoſals, upon which we entred into Contract: The Commiſſioners preſent at the Contract, was,

Mr. *Thomas Papillon*, Mr. *Humph. Ayles*,
Mr. *John Barrington*.

The Contract is as follows, (*viz.*) *April* the 4th 1699.

THE Commiſſioners are content to Employ Mr. *John Kelly*, for Baking of Bisket at the Price of Eight Shillings *per* Quarter, and that the Money that ſhall be Weekly received for Bran and Small-Coal, be paid to him on Account, to be cleared and made up; and that he give Security to Satisfaction for the Faithful Performance, and that he will not Sell or Diſpoſe of any of the King's Goods, and will make good the Money he ſhall receive for the Small-Coal and Bran upon Account.

This is a true Copy of the Contract taken by Mr. *Charles Mitchel*, Secretary to the Commiſſioners of the Victualling.

And I have fully Comply'd on my Part, which was to give Security to Satisfaction.

A LETTER to Mr. BARRINGTON.

SIR,

I Had but one Plank left to eſcape Shipwrack by, and that was the Commiſſioners Contract with me.—Tranſported that I had any thing to offer my Creditors, I immediately founded an Inſtrument on it: The fairneſs of which prevail'd with them to a compliance with me. Without it I had been remanded to a Goal, and 7 Children, and a Wife big with another, had all periſh'd. I am ſtab'd to the Heart to find freſh Differences to ariſe among your Honours about me. By all that is gentle in human Nature, and merciful in the moſt charitable Religion in the World, be won over to Mr. *Papillon*'s Senſe of that Expreſſion of the Lords of the Admiralty concerning me, ſhould it be a miſtaken one, all that ſhall hear of my deplorable Circumſtance, would applaud and juſtify you in it. And give me leave, Sir, to hope your Goodneſs may carry you ſo far, as to influence even Mr. *Mayne* to the ſame Nobleneſs of Spirit with your ſelf: This would be Heroick. May he that has the Hearts even of Kings in his hands, affect both yours with a Caſe, one of the moſt compaſſionable the heart of man was ever addreſs'd to withal. May you both reſemble the beſt of Beings, in giving and forgiving, is the Prayer of your humble Supplicant and Servant,

JOHN KELLY.

Noverint

NOverint Universi per presentes nos; Johannem Kelly, *de Paroch St.* Pauls Shadwel, *in Com' Mid' Pistor*; Georgium Hubbard, *de Paroch'* Hillington *in Com' Mid' Millar, &* Thomum Goldsmith, *Civem & Mason de* London, *teneri & firmiter obligar' Dom' nost'* Guilielmo *Tertio, Dei Gratia* Angliæ, Scotiæ, Franciæ, *&* Hiberniæ *Rex*; *Fidei Defensor*, &c. *in Mille Libris, bonæ & legalis monetæ* Anglia, *Solvend' eidem Dom' nost'* Guilielmo *Tertio Dei Gratia, aut sic certo Attornet' Successor' vel Assignat' suis, ad quamquidem solutionem bene & fideliter faciend' Obligamus, nos & quemlibet nostrum per se pro toto in solido, Hered' Executores & Administratores, nostros & Cujuslibet nostrum firmiter, per presentes, sigillis nost' sigilat' dat' secundo* Maii, *Anno Regni Dom' nost'* Guilielmo *Tertii Dei Gratia, nunc* Angliæ, *&c. Fidei Defensoris, Undecimo Anno Dom'* 1699.

WHEREAS the Honourable Commissioners of His Majesty's Victualing-Office, are content to Employ the above-bounden *John Kelly*, for the Baking of Bisket, at the Price of Eight Shilling *per* Quarter; and that the Money that shall be Weekly received for Bran and Small-Coal, be paid to him on Account, and every Month the Account to be cleared and made up. NOW THE CONDITION of this Obligation is such, That if the above-bounden *John Kelly*, shall, and do from time to time, Faithfully perform the said Agreement and Trust Reposed in him, and no ways Imbezel or Dispose of the King's Goods to his own Use; but from time to time, Monthly as aforesaid, out of the said Eight Shillings *per* Quarter, Deduct, and make good unto the said Commissioners, or their Order, all such Moneys he shall receive for the Small-Coal and Bran upon Account as aforesaid, without Fraud or further Delay; then this present Obligation to be void, and of no effect; or else to remain in full Force and Virtue.

Sealed and Delivered in the Presence of us, it being first Stampt with the double Six Penny Stamp, according to Act of Parliament,

John Kelly.
George Hubbard.
Tho. Goldsmith.

By the above-bounden *John Kelly*, and *Thomas Goldsmith*,

Charles Michel.
Robert Stepens.
Sprig Manistie.
John Woodward.
Hugh Haworth.

To the Honourable Commissioners for Victualling His Majesty's Navy.

The Humble Petition of *John Kelly*

Sheweth,

THat your Petitioner having contracted with the Board on the 4*th* of *April* last; being thereby obliged to give Security to Satisfaction for his faithful Performance, which he hath accordingly done; did thereupon propose to his Creditors to pay them a part of his Earnings in the Service, which they accepted, and accordingly a part of them have sign'd an Instrument, which obliges them to forbear giving your Petitioner trouble, so long as employ'd in your Service, till the whole be paid.

Therefore humbly prays (in Consideration of the great Detriment, it will be to your Petitioner, the making void the aforesaid Instrument and the loss of what he expended in preparing for the Work,) your Honours would take the Matter into your serious Considerations, and not suffer his sole Dependance to be frustrated, to the prejudice of his Creditors, and the utter ruin of him and his Family. *And he shall ever pray.*

A Letter to his Grace the Duke of Ormond.

May it pleaſe your Grace, *May the 29th,* 1699.

WIth the moſt profound Acknowledgment ever paid to mortal Greatneſs, I addreſs your Grace, with a Nobleneſs peculiarly your own, recommended me to the Admiralty, they in courſe to the Navy, who tranſmitted it to the Victuallers; their Report made upon it, which conſiſted partly of Criminations, partly of owning Services I have done the Government. I had a Copy of it granted me from Mr. *Papillon* unhappily after it was ſent up, I rejoined to it, and have by the incouragement of that good Man, from the Reaſonableneſs of what I then offer'd, both which I lay before your own Judicious Eye; I attended nine Months in hopes of Succeſs given me by him; he has brought it even to a contract with me upon Propoſals of demonſtrable Advantages to the King and the Subjects good, which one of them preſent at it flies from; upon the Truth of this Amazement of oppoſition, I caſt my ſelf at your Grace's Feet, imploring your acquainting His Majeſty therewith, that he in his princely Wiſdom alone, or in Council, as his Royal Pleaſure ſhall be, give ſpeedy Juſtice to me; I periſh without it, as I ſhall deſerve to periſh, if Mr. *Papillon* appear not in my Righteous Cauſe with the ſame Freedom as he did at the Board, where he precides: this will prevent my ruin, with ſeven Children, and a Wife big with another, and inable me to pay ſome hundreds of Pounds of juſt Debts contracted by Loſſes I have ſuſtained by the Publick Service,

And your Supplicant, as in Duty bound, ſhall ever pray.

JOHN KELLY.

A Letter to the Commiſſioners.

Honoured Gentlemen, *June the 5th* 1699.

MAY the 29th I waited on his Grace the Duke of *Ormond*, with my Caſe, Propoſals, and Contract; I put all into his Grace's Hands providentially, when he was in the Coach with His Majeſty, in whoſe Preſence I am certain he read them: on my Attendance to receive his Anſwer, at *Kinſington*, he with a Generoſity truly Illuſtrious, asked me what I would deſire from him that he could ſerve me in? I ſaid only that his Grace would Eſpouſe the Juſtice of my Cauſe. Having moved him in my Addreſs, to uſe his Powerful Intereſt, to Influence His Majeſty, either alone, or in Council, as his Princely Wiſdom ſhould order it, to the hearing me. His Grace told me I had deferr'd it too long, the King being juſt upon going; his Grace's Advice to me was, to tender my Bond to you Gentlemen, as I now do, in expectation of your Signing the Contract, in failure thereof to Petition the Privy-Council, where I ſhall have Juſtice done me. I do beſeech you to be no longer divided, but unite in ſerving the Publick, as the Papers now before you carry their Demonſtrations with them; and to prevent the Ruin of him and his Family, who hath laid aſide all other Buſineſs to Serve the Publick Intereſt; and your Compliance therewith, will inable me to pay my Juſt Debts, which I have Contracted by my Loſſes in the Publick Service under you. Who am

Your Honours Humble Servant to Command,

JOHN KELLY.

Note, Mr. *Papillon*'s anſwer to me was, That he was for it, and if I could prevail with Mr. *Barrington*, and Mr. *Maine*, it ſhould be comply'd with. Their not complying occaſion'd the writing this Farewel Letter following.

From Wapping-wall,
June 8. 1699.

HOUOURED GENTLEMEN,

I AM Ruin'd by your Service, and have the Demonſtration of it in ſeveral Articles, 'tis fit the World ſhould know it. A truly Virtuous Man were he to make his choice would rather be as I, one of the moſt diſtreſſed Men living, than one of my Oppreſſors in all his Flouriſh. The Juſtice of the Nation ſhall hear my Cry; and I cannot entertain ſo reflecting a Thought on it, as to queſtion its relieving me. I am at an end of all my Humble Melting Addreſſes to you; I will be trampled on no more for caſting my ſelf at your Feet, by ſome of you, nor once again pierce the tenderer Heart of one of you, by the ſight of it. I now take my Farewel of you, by giving you to underſtand your Old Conjurers have rais'd a New Miſt to continue you in Darkneſs. I'm ſorry I muſt ſay your conſtant encouraging them (and to uſe a Silken Expreſſion for what deſerves a rougher one) your different treating me emboldens them. Your Warrant to me, and my laſt Propoſals to you, agreeable to your own Inſtructions from Above, are to prevent the Sailors being abus'd by mixt Grains: To evade this, Artiſts are ſtarted up (beyond me, for I have try'd in vain) who have ſucceeded in an Experiment of grinding over Bran, mixing it with other Stuff and Baking it: You may fancy this Biſcake hearty as you pleaſe, blow up your Mills, beat down your Ovens, and lay me aſide altogether in Complement to the Cheapneſs of it. This is the happy Project ſome Mens Wits have hit upon, to gratify their Intereſt and Malice in my Deſtruction. I have had my Brains near daſh'd out for once writing you had no Eyes, but all Men will ſay they are ſtrange Ones, that ſhall hear of their magnifying Mole-hills into Mountains in me, and dwindling Mountains into Nothing in my Enemies. They of you who are againſt employing me, from the Admiralty's Command about me, I muſt ſay I think are egregiouſly miſtaken. I requeſt only their Review of my modeſt Reply, to that Report which occaſioned it; and then I dare leave it to the Judgment they will be of about it in their Dying Hours, when they may be perplext with the Remembrance of my Uſage, on their going to a Place where all that is paſt will appear in a better Light to Angels and Men than ever it has yet done: Then I ſhould not have been, as I am, one of the greateſt Objects of Compaſſion that ever was by them unpittied,

JOHN KELLY.

When I ſent this in Writing with a Poſtſcript, I mentioned my deſign of printing it, with many other Papers; this I did hoping they would excuſe me ſo ungrateful a Trouble.

I ſhall according to my laſt farewel Letter to the Commiſſioners, give my demonſtrations of my ruin by theſe ſeveral Articles.

	l.	s.
By Abatement upon 300 Bags of Bisket which I ſold into the Office, ſometime after I contracted to bake the King's Stuff.	45	
Loſt upon the diſcount of the Warrant.	55	
Loſt upon diſcount of a Warrant of 150 *l.* and Intereſt.	45	
Loſt upon a Warrant of 45 *l.*	06	10
Loſt upon a Warrant of 208 *l.*	31	04
Loſt by a Warrant of 100 *l.*	15	
Loſt by a Warrant of 44 *l.*	06	02
Loſt by a Warrant of 78 *l.*	11	14
Loſt by a Warrant of 68 *l.*	10	04
This beſides my Loſs upon Chequer-Bills, amounts to	225	14
By loſt time whilſt in contract to bake the King's Stuff, 44 Weeks, at 3 *l. per* Week, comes to	132	
By the Repairs of my Ovens whilſt in contract, and a part of a Loft broken down by the over-wait of Bread	36	
By rebuilding of my Ovens, and the fitting up of my Houſe for to comply with the laſt Contract, comes to	105	
By being out of Imployment 12 Months, with a Houſe of 50 *l.* a Year, and a great Family to maintain.	152	
The great Oppreſſion I met with from many of my Creditors, becauſe I could not pay them, for want of having my Money paid me from the Office in due time, I was forc'd to pay double, which I am ſure amounts (ſince I have been concern'd to bake the King's Stuff in my Houſe on *Wapping-Wall*) to	152	

The occaſion of all theſe Loſſes has been from their not imploying me as I might have been, and their not paying me as they ought, and the Loſs the Government has ſuſtained hereby is very great alſo.

I'll wind up all with this one Offer more. I am ready to make out before proper Judges, to ſave the Government in baking in their own Office, and my Houſe, and in their dry Proviſions, in proportion to 1000 *l. per Ann.* for the future. By the truth of this I deſire to ſtand, or fall into all the Contempt Malice it ſelf can procure upon me.

FINIS.

ERRATA.

IN the Preface, *line* 15 *for* to *read* of. *Page* 1 *line* 35 *for* heated *read* headed. *Page* 9 *line* 40 *for* Contrivances *read* Continuance. *Page* 18 *line* 2 *after* Grace, *read* who. *Line* 4 *read* tranſmitted my Caſe to the Victuallers; they made Report upon it. *Line* 17 *for* precides *read* preſides.